US Army Corps
Of Engineers
Walla Walla District
201 North Third Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876

30-Day-Notice

Special Public Notice

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, AND IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: August 24, 2010

COMMENTS DUE DATE: September 23, 2010

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, is announcing a Cooperative Agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). This Agreement (Attachment 1) is available on our website at:

http://www.nww.usace.army.mil/html/offices/op/rf/spn.asp.

The Agreement was originally signed by the three parties in 1999. It has been renewed every 2 years since that time. The new agreement is for the duration of 5 years. We have entered this agreement in accordance with Section 6002(j) of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, (SAFETEA-LU) (P.L. 109-59).

The Cooperative Agreement allows for the Corps to accept funding from ITD for priority review of transportation projects. The funds are used to staff regulatory reviewers to process ITD permit applications. The acceptance of funds does not impact impartial decision making with respect to permits, either substantively or procedurally. All actions and the Agreement are in accordance with the Implementation Guidance for Section 2002 of the Water Resources Act of 2007 (Regulatory Program Funds Contributed by Non-Federal Public Entities). This Guidance (Attachment 2) is also available on our website at the link shown above:

New changes to the Agreement include:

- More reporting requirements on the part of the Corps of Engineers
- Up to two positions in the Regulatory Division
- A priority structure for incoming and received projects
- A 5-year renewal of the Agreement

This Public Notice is a solicitation for Comments in accordance with the above guidance. Please submit comments and questions to the following: Ms. Nicholle Braspennickx, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 10095 W. Emerald, Boise, Idaho 83704-9754; phone: 208-345-2287; email: Nicholle.M.Braspenn@usace.army.mil.

David B. Barrows
Chief, Regulatory Division